

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 039410
ORIGIN AF-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO OAU COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 039410

FOLLOWING REPEAT BANGUI 0303 ACTION SECSTATE, LOONDON, PARIS,
MOSCOW, PRETORIA DTD 18 FEB 77.

QTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGUI 0303

STATE PLEASE PASS TO ALL OAU CAPITALS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, XA
SUBJECT: GOCAE VIEWS ON RHODESIAN SITUATION

1. IN MY CONVERSATION WITH EMPEROR BOKASSA ON FEBRUARY
16 AND IN AN EARLIER CONVERSATION THE SAME DAY WITH
FOREIGN MINISTER MOKODOPO, I WAS ABLE TO GET GOCAE'S
VIEWS ON CURRENT RHODESIAN SITUATION AND RECOGNITION
OF PATRIOTIC FRONT BOTH DEPLORED AND CURRENT SITUATION
AND THE DIVISIONS AMONG RHODESIAN POLITICAL GROUPS.
BOKASSA IN PARTICULAR WAS OUTSPOKENLY CRITICAL OF
AFRICAN PERFORMANCE TO DATE AND ATTRIBUTED THE FAILURE
OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE TO A LACK OF COOPERATION AMONG
AFRICAN DELEGATIONS. HE SAID HE WAS FEARFUL THAT THE
RHODESIAN SITUATION WOULD BE A REPLAY OF ANGOLA,
WITH SOVIET DOMINATED ELEMENTS COMING OUT ON TOP.
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HE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED THE UNITED STATES TO CONTINUE ITS
EFFORTS BEGUN BY FORMER SECRETARY KISSINGER. BOTH
HE AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER WELCOMED OUR UNDERTAKING
TO REPEAL BYRD AMENDMENT AND TO PUT PRESSURE ON SMITH
REGIME. BOKASSA ADDED, THAT AFRICAN STATES
WOULD HAVE TO USE THEIR INFLUENCE TO GET VARIOUS
RHODESIAN FACTIONS WORKING TOGETHER.

2. COMMENT: INSOFAR AS USG EFFORTS TO PROMOTE A SETTLEMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA IS CONCERNED WE CAN COUNT ON BOKASSA'S SYMPATHETIC SUPPORT. HOWEVER, HE FEELS HE WAS BADLY BURNED OVER ANGOLA IN 1975 AND 1976 BY GETTING TOO FAR OUT IN FRONT OF AFRICAN MAJORITY POSITIONS, AND I DO NOT THINK HE WILL PLAY AN ACTIVE PUBLIC ROLE UNLESS WE SPECIFICALLY ASK HIM TO DO SO. HE IS UNLIKELY TO SUPPORT EXCLUSIVE RECOGNITION FOR THE PATRIOTIC FRONT, WHICH HE SEES AS SOVIET DOMINATED, UNLESS THAT APPEARS TO BE VIRTUALLY UNANIMOUS AFRICAN POSITION IN WHICH CASE HE WOULD GRUDGINGLY GO ALONG.

QUAINTON

UNQTE: VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: AF/C:RGRIBBINS:LAR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
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Film Number: D770062-0161
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From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: PFOR, US, XA, CF, RH, (BOKASSA, SALAH L-DIN AHMED)
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